



ACUTE CARE CENTERS (ACC)

What is an ACUTE CARE CENTER?

An **Acute Care Center (ACC)** is a non-traditional medical facility that provides medical treatment when the normal healthcare system in Delaware is overwhelmed from a disaster. The ACC is one part of the state's Modular Medical Expansion System (MMES). See MMES Fact Sheet.

What kind of care would one receive at an ACC?

Patients who enter an ACC receive basic inpatient medical care to treat injuries or illness resulting from a public health emergency or disaster. This care would include, but not be limited to, hydration, antibiotic therapy, bronchodilation, and pain management. Extensive life-support, however, would most likely be provided at a hospital.

Capacity

Currently, ACCs in Delaware can support a maximum of 400 beds. Facilities are designated throughout the state to support ACCs. Plans are underway to expand this capacity to 1,000 staffed beds.

Managing and Staffing ACCs

A state of emergency is usually declared before an ACC is activated. The Division of Public Health, through the State Health Operations Center called SHOC, provides necessary coordination and resources to sustain the ACCs. Hospitals manage and staff ACCs in conjunction with the Division of Public Health. DPH staff may be supplemented by the Delaware Medical Reserve Corps and federal medical personnel.

How would a patient enter an Acute Care Center?

A patient would not go directly to an ACC. Patients would only be admitted after being evaluated by the Hospital Emergency Department or the Neighborhood Emergency Help Center (NEHC), operated by the Division of Public Health.